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In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

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EDITORIAL OPINION

TUESDAY'S ELECTION

The prospect is not good for a sizeable vote in this county in next Tuesday's General Election. There will be two ballots. On one, voters will name a United States Senator for a six-year term, and a Representative in Congress from the Fourth District. For the term in the Senate, Senator A. Willis Robertson has no serious opposition for re-election and will win easily. For the term in Congress, Appomattox's own Watkins M. Abbitt has no opposition for re-election.

It seems to this newspaper that local citizens would have every reason to go to the polls next Tuesday and support Mr. Robertson and Mr. Abbitt. Willis Robertson has been an outstanding United States Senator and the fact that his service is held in such respect that it was considered useless to oppose him is a testimonial of the first order. And as for Watt Abbitt, his home county should strive to give him a rousing vote of approval next Tuesday. This paper considers him to be the strongest member of the Virginia delegation in Congress. He has the most promising political future of any young man today in Virginia public life. On top of that, his record in the past session of Congress was brilliant. Surely, there is no farmer in his district who does not owe a debt of gratitude to Watt Abbitt. He has done more for Virginia farmers than any man since John Flannigan. And his record on matters before the Congress is excelled only by the leadership he has displayed within his party in Virginia.

We urge every eligible voter in Appomattox County to go to the polls Tuesday and vote for Mr. Robertson and Mr. Abbitt.

The second ballot in Tuesday's election, concerns a proposed amendment to the State Constitution to enable the use of reserve Retirement Fund cash for loans to localities for schools. The Literary Fund is not large enough to meet the financing needs of localities as for schools, and the purpose of this amendment is to supplement the Literary Fund with available Retirement Funds. There is some scattered opposition to this amendment.

Statewide, the Democrats are expected to pick up two of the three seats in Congress now held by Republicans. Democratic chances in the Sixth District are not too bright.

Nationally, the Democrats are certain to make gains over the results in 1952. Control of the House is predicted for the Democrats, and the Senate alignment is expected to be exceedingly close. Frantic efforts of the GOP to keep control in Washington, is running into a storm of farmer unrest, a rising tide of unemployment, and a wall of dissatisfaction with Drift and Favoritism. The continued personal popularity of President Eisenhower is not held to be enough to carry voters to the support of Republican candidates for Congress and the Senate.

Of interest in the South, is the prospect of Dixie members of Congress gaining prestige, power and position through the return of the Democrats to control. They are ranking members of top committees, and Southerners will move upward again.

Be a practicing American! Go to the polls Tuesday!

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WANTED: NURSES

(The Winchester Star)

Over the centuries, nursing has evolved into a great profession because of three very diverse influences.

The first reason was religion, which in the early days of Christianity induced ladies to take up the care of the sick as a charitable duty. Then it was warfare—the Crimean War, the Civil War and the first World War—that gave nursing a tremendous impetus. And then it was science, with the rush of medical advancement over the past few decades, that revolutionized nursing into a great vocation.

Now that nursing has attained that status, what's happening? There's an acute shortage of nurses everywhere in the nation. Why? Because there are more people and therefore more patients, because more people can afford treatment, because science has perfected new cures—and because not enough young women are entering the profession.

Here is an opportunity for girls to select a profession that serves humanity through medicine and science, and in which the standards of pay, working conditions and security give promise of continual improvement.

WHEN GOVERNMENT GROWS SILENT

(The Wall Street Journal)

Britain's Press Council has some rather harsh things to say in its most recent report about the habit of government official to decide what should be told the public about the public's affairs — a tendency, it should be noted, that is not restricted to that side of the water.

"Some critics, when they refer to press intrusions, cherish the simple belief that they can suppress a piece of business or a document by labelling it 'private and confidential' and that the press ought meekly to consider themselves in honor bound to respect the injunction."

Let us say at the outset that no responsible newspaper here in Great Britain would knowingly print information that may transgress the security of their country. The difficulties arise because the term "security" is translated into other fields and takes on other meanings.

Often it occurs because those in charge of the rubber stamps don't know whether a document or a paper actually touches on security and it is easier to hide it away than make another decision. Again it occurs because of political considerations—the public might not like what it learns if it is permitted to learn it.

Mostly, though, labelling arises from a propensity of those in power to feel that some things are simply not the public's business, and that the business of the public can best be conducted without the public knowing anything at all about it.

Thus we have had judges—elected and responsible to the people as well as to their oaths of office—closing courts to the public because the judges thought that what was going on behind the closed doors would not be good for the public to know.

Also we have had laws passed by the Congress which denied to the public knowledge about welfare rolls—though the public, through their taxes, supported those on the rolls. When newspapers exposed cases of fraud in the welfare rolls the Congress hastily rescinded the secrecy part of the law and the number of people on welfare was reduced in many states.

Thus we have had secret agreements with other nations which were withheld from the public because officials thought it was not the public's business. The most recent to come to light was the secret agreement giving Great Britain a veto over any use by us of atomic weapons. Because atomic power has been the clinchpin of our foreign policy since Hiroshima, the secret agreement gave our ally Britain a secret veto over foreign policy. None of this did the people know from 1943 until Prime Minister Churchill revealed it last April.

Mr. Truman, when he was asked about it, seemed somewhat surprised that the agreement was considered either a secret one or the business of the public. He said, "There was no secret about it to the people who were entitled to know about it."

There, we think, is the nub of the concern about government secrecy. It is a state of mind officials seem to acquire along with power, and it leads them to think that they know best what is good for the people and that the people need not know what is good for the people and that the people need not know what is going on.

Its growth in free nations can lead only to a loss of the right of the people to know what their government is about. In turn the silence can lead only to a loss of freedom.

ADAMS FAMILY PAPERS

(The Washington Post)

There is no more important collection of Americana than the papers of the Adams family of Massachusetts. It is indeed gratifying therefore, that these papers at last will be made freely available to scholars. Many of the papers have been opened but some of the restrictions on their use have been bothersome. Some of them have been seen by only a few historians. Now, by arrangement between the Adams Manuscript Trust, the Massachusetts Historical Society, Harvard University and Life Magazine, the diaries and letters of this famous family will be published. The chief editor will be Lyman H. Butterfield, who has been associate editor of the papers of Thomas Jefferson, which are being published by Princeton University.

This new undertaking ought to rank with the publishing ventures that are bringing out the Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln papers. The Adams family may not have produced a man of the stature of three immortals, but surely it contributed a larger number of great men to nineteenth century America than any other family.

SHUFFLING THE COMMITTEE DECK

(The Winchester Star)

Should the Democrats win control of both Houses of Congress, as they now boast they will, committee chairmanships will be completely reshuffled next January. And committee chairmen enjoy all-important influence over legislation, for it is in the committees, largely, that laws are moulded or proposals are blocked, as the case may be.

You don't often hear candidates saying, "Vote for my party so I can be chairman of such and such a committee." But supporters of Sen. Clinton P. Anderson are doing just that in New Mexico. They say that if the Democrats win, Anderson would be the chairman of the all-important—to New Mexicans—Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy.

True, Anderson is ranked on that Committee by Sen. Richard B. Russell (D. Ga.). But Russell would probably prefer the chairmanship of the Senate Armed Services Committee he held in the 82nd Congress.

Then there is the appeal indirect, by Senators not up for re-election. That was the pitch of Sen. McCarthy (R., Wis.) in his radio speech of Nov. 24, 1953, when he asked voters to support Republican candidates in 1954 so that McCarthy would keep his chairmanship of the Senate Permanent Investigating Subcommittee. "If the American people . . believe in the necessity of digging out and getting rid of the type of Communists who have been before our committee," declared McCarthy, "then their answer is to keep the Republicans."

McCarthy's ally, the late Sen. Pat McCarran (D., Nev.) was making the same sort of appeal on the day of his death, Sept. 28. McCarran, whose term was not to expire until 1957, was asking Nevadans to vote Democratic so that McCarran might be returned as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and its Internal Security Subcommittee.

Republicans have been making the point that if the Democrats win control of either or both Houses of Congress, Southern Democrats will rule the roost. In the Senate, more than half the important chairmanships would go to Southerners. In the House, Democratic chairmen from Dixie would be even more in evidence.

Sen. Walter F. George (Ga.) would have his choice of the Senate Finance of Foreign Relations committees on both of which he is now the ranking minority member. If he chose the latter, although he headed the former in the 82nd Congress Senator Byrd would be chairman of Finance. He is now the only Democrat heading a committee—the joint one on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures.

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THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

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Scripture: Proverbs 6:6-11; 12:24, 27; 13:11; 14:23; 15:19; 18:9; 24:30-34.
Devotional Reading: Ephesians 4:11-16.

Work Worthwhile

Lesson for October 31, 1954

SOME very kind-hearted person remarked that something good could be said about everybody. "What good could you say of the devil?" he was asked. "Well," he answered, "the devil's a mighty hard worker!"—which goes to show that work, by itself, is not necessarily a good thing. It depends on what you work at, and on what comes of your efforts. Work is certainly not good if it does harm. If only the devil had been born lazy, how much better this world might be!

Dr. Foreman

Work is not good, either, when it is nothing but "busy-work," mere effort with no purpose, nothing to be gained by it. A person could go down to the seashore with a large shovel and pile up a mountain of sand one day and shovel the whole thing flat again the next day . . . but so what? Aside from the exercise, no use at all. And the exercise itself might be better gotten in other ways.

Work and Value

Work has dignity, work is worthwhile, only under certain conditions. One of these conditions can be expressed in this way: Does the work increase or create value? A piece of iron is worth far less than the same iron made into steel watch springs. The work done adds to the cost, of course, but also to the real value. A weedy, eroded field is not worth what the same field is worth when it has been worked, fertilized, planted, cultivated and a fine crop of potatoes, cotton, wheat or what not is growing there. Karl Marx pointed this out in the 19th century, only he overlooked something important. He seems to have had the notion that the only work that adds to the value of things is manual labor.

It is true, as he said, that the toil of the miners goes into the value of the coal you burn; but he was wrong in thinking that labor contributes everything, management nothing. A president (a good one, no stuffed shirt) sitting in his office may not do enough physical work in the course of a week to raise a drop of perspiration. But his plans and decisions are work too, and they may add more value to what his plant turns out than any 20 stevedores on the place.

Work and Character

Work has dignity too, and it is worthwhile, when it produces that highest of all values, character. The many contrasts in Proverbs between the worker and the lazy lout bring this out. The worker is not only adding to the sum of values in the world, he is building his own character. The hand of the diligent shall rule, one Proverb says. That is, the worker grows capable by the very work he does. The reward of good work is not usually a vacation but a promotion, that is to say, a chance to do more work on a larger scale. Most Presidents of the United States, however capable they were when they were elected, left the White House abler men than when they entered. This is all just as true on the humbler levels of life. All work has dignity, all work is worthwhile, when it adds to human values and when it builds the character of the worker. A garbage collector is adding to the health-values of the community; and if he is a good one (no stuffed blue shirt!) he can be growing in character too. There is a certain professional cleaner of grease traps who looks on his work with such pride and satisfaction that he has been an inspirer of other men

Laziness Is a Sin

The Proverbs point out three sins in this area of life. One is pure laziness. The lazy man does not usually think of himself as a sinner. He isn't doing anything. But that is just the point. Not doing what needs to be done is a real sin, it eats out the lazy man's character in no time. Another sin is slackness, the "sin of slapdash." The man who is slack in his work is brother to the destroyer, it is said. How many buildings have burned down because of "defective wiring!" And what does any price of defective wiring spell but somebody's carelessness on the job? How many crops have been lost not because any one destroyed them but just because what had to be done was not well done?

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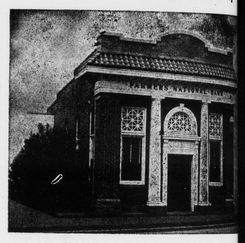

There's no better advice for any person than to save regularly. That's the sure way of making your future free from worry . . . and of having the things you want from life. Whatever your income, start the habit of saving a certain amount on pay day. Your savings will earn our regular rate of interest and you'll be amazed at how fast your account will grow. Begin in today and open your account.

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...Oct. 25.- Please, don't ...allowe'en party at the ...Community Center this ...night, beginning at 6:00 ...Everybody is invited to at-

...R. H. Thornhill spent the ...end at Waynesboro with Mr. ...and Floyd Weidman.

...Crawford and Osborne ...Mrs. J. R. Horsley and ...Davidson spent the week-...Mr. and Mr. Stuart Bar-...family at Staunton.

...J. B. Beard and son, George ...Mrs. E. L. Chick spent ...with Mr. and Mrs. Henry ...of Appomattox, in celebra-...of Mr. Beard's birthday. We ...him many more happy

...and Mrs. C. D. Carson and ...and Mrs. Lester Carson spent ...in Roanoke with relatives. ...and Mrs. Howlette Drinkard, ...of Miss Arlene Drinkard, of ...were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Drinkard on last Wednesday.

Mrs. C. M. Caldwell and Mrs. E. L. Chick visited Mrs. Pete Dickerson and her family on last Thursday in their new lovely home near Spout Spring.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Bondurant and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Tom Davidson on Sunday.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. Walker Scruggs is very ill in the Memorial Hospital. We wish for him a speedy recovery.

Miss Bertha Wheeler, of Richmond spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Irby Wheeler.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Collins, of Lynchburg spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Caldwell.

The frozen French fried potato is the second ranking vegetable in retail sales, exceeded only by peas. Last year, 3½ million bushels of Irish potatoes were used for this product.

CARE OF TRACTOR TIRES GETS LONGER WEAR

Tractor tires that are properly mounted, inflated to the right pressure, and treated with reasonable care last longer and do better work while in use, says the County Extension Agent. Rough or careless use will greatly shorten the life of all farm tires.

Under-inflation of tires causes bruise breaks, buckling, punctures, and uneven wear. If the air pressure is too low, the tire will be crushed against the rim, or the cords in the tire will be stretched by hitting sharp objects such as stumps, or stones. Such bruise can result in breaks in the tire that can rub through or pinch the tube after a few hours of service.

Extensive buckling causes the sidewall cords and rubber to break down, leading to early failure of the tire. The pull of the wheel and the sidewise force on the tire at the same time causes tire buckles when the tire is under-inflated. And under-inflated tires are also more easily punctured, says the agent.

Over - inflation causes impact breaks and fast tread wear. When air pressure is too high or if the tire is over-filled with water, a localized blow by a sharp rock or tree stump may break the cords. Impact breaks usually show up as a large "X" or a diagonal break that may extend from bead to bead. Excessive air pressure combined with too little wheel weighing will cause fast tread wear, and the forward edges of the tread will wear very quickly. Over-inflation reduces traction, resulting in excessive slippage which causes more rapid wear, the county agent explains.

Filling a tire full of water has the same effect as over-inflation. The tire should be filled only three-fourths full of water, then enough air added to inflate it properly. A good "rule-of-the-thumb" for measuring the correct amount is to turn the tire so the valve is on top, open the valve, and let the water above this point run out.

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Lin Yang won't vote next Tuesday.... *Will you?*

When the sun appears, Lin Yang drags himself from his pallet — and until the night comes again, he drives himself at hard labor. For this he gets a handful of food, a few cheap garments for his body, and the chance to return to his bed for a brief escape from his grim existence.

He longs for more in life but expects nothing more.

Least of all does he expect the chance to cast a free vote in an honest election.

Ironically enough, here in the United States where men cast off their shackles almost 200 years ago — where men are free and *can* vote — millions of them *don't vote.* These are the millions who have the privilege, but fail to see or accept the responsibility. *In the last presidential election, more than 36 million eligible voters failed to go to the polls.**

Next Tuesday, this nation will elect 435 U. S. Representatives, 32 U. S. Senators and many state and local officials. These are critical times. The world is in trouble, and every public office should be filled by the most competent, most sincere men and women who make themselves available. The task for next Tuesday is clearly defined: *it is the individual's responsibility to inform himself about his candidates, make up his mind, and go to the polls and VOTE.*

Lin Yang won't vote next Tuesday. *Will YOU?*

*In the 1952 presidential election, 61,551,978 votes were cast. The U. S. Bureau of Census estimates that there were 98,135,000 citizens eligible to vote at the time.

Norfolk and Western Railway